

MACCLESFIELD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.INTERIM REPORT ON THE HEALTH AND SANITARY  
CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31st DECEMBER, 1939.

Medical Officer of Health - Arnold Brown, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
Commenced duty 1st June, 1939.

Robert Proudfoot, M.D., C.M.,  
Resigned 31st May, 1939. Edin.

Sanitary Inspector - S. Garner, Cert.R.S.I., Etc.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector - Mrs. B. Smith.

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To -  
The Chairman and Members of the  
Macclesfield Rural District Council.

Mrs. Armitage and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Rural District of Macclesfield for the year ended 31st December, 1939. This report has been compiled as laid down in Circulars Nos. 1961 and 2067 of the Ministry of Health and has been considerably curtailed.

There has been no abnormal incidence of infectious diseases in the Rural District during the year.

Under the Government Evacuation Scheme, 1,771 mothers and children were received. At the end of the year the number remaining was 221. No increase of infectious diseases was noted after the evacuation took place.

SECTION A.Statistics and Social Conditions.

The customary notes on social conditions are not requested by the Ministry of Health for the year ended 31st December, 1939.

Extracts from Vital Statistics.

|                                                            |                 | <u>Total.</u> | <u>Male.</u> | <u>Female.</u> |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| Live births                                                | (Legitimate -   | 192           | 90           | 102            |
|                                                            | (Illegitimate - | 12            | 6            | 6              |
| Still births                                               | -               | 5             | 3            | 2              |
| Birth rate per 1,000 estimated average population mid-1939 |                 |               |              | - 10.6         |
| Still birth rate per 1,000 (live and still) births         |                 |               |              | - 23.9         |



|                                                   | <u>Total.</u> | <u>Male.</u> | <u>Female.</u> |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| Deaths - - -                                      | 198           | 99           | 99             |
| Death rate per 1,000 estimated average population | -             | -            | 10.4           |
| Comparability Factor - -                          | -             | -            | 1.00           |

Deaths from puerperal causes (headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's short list):-

|                                | <u>Number of Deaths.</u> | <u>Death rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.</u> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| No. 29: Puerperal sepsis       | 0                        | 0                                                          |
| No. 30: Other puerperal causes | 0                        | 0                                                          |
| Total:                         | 0                        | 0                                                          |

Death rate of infants under one year of age:-

|                                                         |   |       |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---|-------|
| All infants per 1,000 live births                       | - | 39.2  |
| Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births     | - | 31.2  |
| Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births | - | 166.6 |

|                                              | <u>Male.</u> | <u>Female.</u> | <u>Total.</u> |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| Deaths from cancer (all ages)                | 12           | 13             | 25            |
| Deaths from measles (all ages)               | -            | -              | -             |
| Deaths from whooping cough (all ages)        | -            | -              | -             |
| Deaths from diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) | -            | -              | -             |

There was no unusual or excessive mortality during the year which requires comment.

There does not appear to be any occupation having a prejudicial effect on health.

#### SECTION B.

##### General provision of Health Services for the area.

These remain as in previous years, with the following additions:-

(1) A branch of the St. Mary's Hospital for lying-in mothers was established at Collar House, Prestbury, and a branch of the Christie Cancer Hospital at Withinlee, Prestbury. Both of these establishments are a result of war-time evacuation.

(2) The arrangements for nursing in the home are carried out by many District Nursing Associations. From September to December it was necessary to appoint a full-time nurse to assist in the home and school nursing of evacuated children in the Sutton and Prestbury districts.



## SECTION C.

### Sanitary Circumstances of the area.

Water. The following additions to the arrangements for water supply during the year 1939 may be noted:-

- (1) Sanction was given by the Ministry of Health for the construction of a 61,000 gallons service reservoir and about 10,000 yards of mains to supply the Parishes of Bosley, North Rode and Eaton. The work will be commenced in 1940.
- (2) A supply from springs through 532 yards of two-inch mains was laid on to the Council houses at Bosley.
- (3) Mains were extended at Withington, Prestbury and Mottram St. Andrew, by a total length of 1,528 lineal yards.
- (4) Extensions are projected in the Parishes of Siddington and Gawsorth.

Twenty-one chemical and/or bacteriological examinations were made of private water supplies during the year. Six were found to be unfit for dietetic purposes and the owners of the property were pressed to provide an alternative supply.

Drainage and Sewerage. There were no important changes during the year.

Closet Accommodation. One hundred and thirty-five closets were converted to the water carriage system during the year. Approximately one hundred and fifty houses in built-up areas are on the conservancy system, chiefly in Langley and the Knutsford Road district of Chorley and Great Warford. In these areas, no public sewers are available.

Public Cleansing. The Council's cleansing service was extended to the whole or part of Kettleshulme, Rainow, Hurdsfield, Bosley, Gawsorth, Henbury, Nether Alderley, Chelford, Snelson, Great Warford and Chorley. The number of refuse tips was reduced from eighteen to twelve.

## SECTION D.

### Housing.

The customary table of activities under the Housing Acts is omitted.

|                                                                                                                                                                                           |      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| Number of dwelling houses in respect of which formal Notices were served under Housing Acts, requiring repairs and which were rendered fit by owners after service of such formal Notices | - 9  |
| Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices under the Public Health Acts were served requiring defects to be remedied and which were complied with                              | - 14 |
| Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made                                                                                                                 | - 5  |
| Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders (including houses under Demolition Orders prior to 1939)                                                           | - 13 |

143 informal Notices were served affecting housing defects.

16 dwelling houses have been erected under the Council's re-housing scheme.



107 houses are required for agricultural workers under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1938.

Conditions under which licences for camping sites and temporary dwellings will be granted by the Council under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, have been approved by the Council.

#### SECTION E.

##### Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply. The number of premises registered under the Milk and Dairies Act, 1915, and the Milk and Dairies Order, 1936 - 626

The number on the Accredited milk roll - 264

The number of Tuberculin-Tested Milk Producers - 8

Structural improvements were effected at nineteen registered premises.

Meat and other foods. Number of licensed slaughter-houses - 9

Total weight of unsound meat condemned - 1 ton, 3 quarters, 12 lbs.

One milk sample out of fifteen obtained was certified by the Public Analyst as "abnormal". As the analysis afforded no evidence of the milk having been tampered with, no prosecution was undertaken, and the farmer was advised as to the methods by which he could improve the quality of his milk supply.

There were no notifications of food poisoning.

#### SECTION F.

##### Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases.

There was no abnormal incidence of notifiable disease in any Parish of the Rural District.

##### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1939.

| Disease.               | Total cases notified. | Cases admitted to hospital. | Total Deaths. |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Scarlet Fever:         | 11                    | 3                           | 0             |
| Diphtheria:            | 19                    | 17                          | 1             |
| Paratyphoid Fever:     | 2                     | 1                           | 0             |
| Pneumonia:             | 12                    | 0                           | 2             |
| Erysipelas:            | 3                     | 0                           | 1             |
| Puerperal Pyrexia:     | 1                     | 1                           | 0             |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum: | 2                     | 0                           | 0             |
| Measles:               | 1                     | 0                           | 0             |
| Whooping Cough         | 3                     | 0                           | 0             |

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Age Distribution of Infectious Diseases.

| Disease.              | Under<br>1 year. | 1- | 2- | 3- | 4- | 5- | 10- | 20- | 35- | 45- | 65 and<br>over. |
|-----------------------|------------------|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------------|
| Scarlet Fever:        |                  |    |    |    | 1  | 3  | 6   |     |     | 1   |                 |
| Diphtheria:           |                  |    | 1  |    |    | 8  | 2   | 6   | 1   | 1   |                 |
| Paratyphoid<br>Fever: |                  |    |    |    |    |    |     | 1   | 1   |     |                 |
| Pneumonia:            |                  |    |    |    |    |    |     | 3   | 1   | 4   | 4               |
| Erysipelas:           |                  |    |    |    |    |    | 1   |     |     |     |                 |
| Whooping<br>Cough:    | 1                | 1  |    | 1  |    |    |     |     |     |     |                 |
| Measles:              |                  |    |    |    | 1  |    |     |     |     |     |                 |

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Number of children immunised, under school age - 121

Number of children immunised, attending schools - 619

The method used was three injections of Burroughs Wellcome's Diphtheria Prophylactic T.A.F.

Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality during 1939.

New Cases.

Deaths.

| Ages.             | Respiratory. |         | Non-Respiratory. |         | Respiratory. |         | Non-Respiratory. |         |
|-------------------|--------------|---------|------------------|---------|--------------|---------|------------------|---------|
|                   | Male.        | Female. | Male.            | Female. | Male.        | Female. | Male.            | Female. |
| Up to 1<br>year.  |              |         |                  |         |              |         |                  |         |
| 1-5               |              |         | 2                | 2       |              |         |                  |         |
| 5-15              |              |         | 3                | 2       |              |         |                  |         |
| 15-25             |              | 1       |                  |         |              |         | 1                |         |
| 23-35             |              | 2       |                  | 2       |              |         |                  |         |
| 35-45             | 2            |         | 1                |         |              |         |                  |         |
| 45-55             |              | 1       |                  |         | 3            |         |                  |         |
| 55-65             |              |         |                  |         | 1            | 1       |                  |         |
| 65 and<br>upwards |              |         |                  |         |              |         |                  |         |
| Totals            | 2            | 4       | 6                | 6       | 4            | 1       | 1                |         |



All the deaths were of notified cases.

My thanks are due to the Chairman and Members of the Rural District Council, the Clerk of the Council and the Sanitary Inspectors for their assistance during the year.

I beg to remain,  
Your obedient Servant,

ARNOLD BROWN.

Medical Officer of Health.

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